

It is not necessary for the witnesses to see the will and the testator can cover it all up except his signature, provided the witnesses are informed that it is the testator's will and they are requested to witness it. The witnesses must be told the nature of the document they are witnessing.

Alterations, additions or obliterations in wills will require evidence as to the circumstances in which they were made or done. Where such alterations, or additions are initialled by the testator and both the witnesses, such initialling is usually accepted as evidence of the alterations etc. In other cases an affidavit of one of the witnesses to the will, proving the alterations or additions to have been made before execution will be required. If both witnesses are dead or cannot be traced, it will be necessary on proving the will to have an affidavit by the person finding the will, that the will was in the same condition now as when he found it. The probate authorities will then in their discretion pass or reject the alterations.

Where such alterations or additions were made after the will was signed, they do not form part of the will, and will be ignored.

If a will is lengthy it can be written on any number of sheets of paper, but the testator and both witnesses should sign at the foot of each page.

and the attestation clause should read: "

In _____ witness

whereof I have hereunto set my hand

to this my

Will contained in this and the [four]

preceding

_____ sheets of paper this _____ day of _____

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We will now assume that you have

these facts in

mind when you take instructions from

a client.

What should a will contain?